

Department of Veterans Affairs

§ 38.633

§ 38.630 Headstones and markers.

(a) Types of Government headstones and markers and inscriptions will be in accordance with policies approved by the Secretary.

(b) Inscriptions on Government headstones, markers, and private monuments will be in accordance with policies and specifications of the Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs.

(c) A memorial headstone or marker furnished for a deceased veteran by the Government may be erected in a private cemetery or in a national cemetery section established for this purpose. The headstones or markers for national cemeteries will be of the standard design authorized for the cemetery in which they are to be erected. In addition to the authorized inscription, the words "In Memory Of" are mandatory.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 501)

§ 38.631 Graves marked with a private headstone or marker.

(a) VA will furnish an appropriate Government marker for the grave of a decedent described in paragraph (b) of this section, but only if the individual requesting the marker certifies on VA Form 40-1330 that it will be placed on the grave for which it is requested or, if placement on the grave is impossible or impracticable, as close to the grave as possible within the grounds of the private cemetery where the grave is located.

(b) The decedent referred to in paragraph (a) of this section is one who:

(1) Died on or after September 11, 2001;

(2) Is buried in a private cemetery; and

(3) Was eligible for burial in a national cemetery, but is not an individual described in 38 U.S.C. 2402(4), (5), or (6).

(c) VA will deliver the marker directly to the cemetery where the grave is located or to a receiving agent for delivery to the cemetery.

(d) VA will not pay the cost of installing a Government marker in a private cemetery.

(e) The applicant must obtain certification on VA Form 40-1330 from a cemetery representative that the type and

placement of the marker requested adheres to the policies and guidelines of the selected private cemetery.

(f) VA will furnish its full product line of Government markers for private cemeteries.

(g) The authority to furnish a marker under this section expires on December 31, 2006.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 501, 2306)

(The Office of Management and Budget has approved the information collection requirements in this section under control number 2900-0222.)

§ 38.632 Headstone and marker application process.

(a) Headstones and markers for graves in national cemeteries shall be ordered from the Record of Interment (VA Form 40-4956) prepared by the national cemetery superintendent at the time of interment. No further application is required.

(b) Submission of VA Form 40-1330, Application for Headstone or Marker, is required for the purpose of:

(1) Ordering a Government headstone or marker for any unmarked grave of any eligible veteran buried in a private or local cemetery.

(2) Ordering a Government headstone or marker for any unmarked grave in a post cemetery of the Armed Forces.

(3) Ordering a Government memorial headstone or marker for placement in a national cemetery, in a private or local cemetery and any post cemetery of the Armed Forces.

§ 38.633 Group memorial monuments.

(a) *Definitions of terms.* For the purpose of this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) *Group*—all the known and unknown dead who perished in a common military event.

(2) *Memorial Monument*—a monument commemorating veterans, whose remains have not been recovered or identified. Monuments will be selected in accordance with policies established under 38 CFR 38.630.

(3) *Next of kin*—recognized in order: Surviving spouse; children, according to age; parents, including adoptive, stepparents, and foster parents; brothers or sisters, including half or stepbrothers and stepsisters; grandparents;